

Reconsideration Request, Claims Pending

The non-final Office action mailed on 29 March 2007 has been considered carefully. Reconsideration of the claimed invention in view of the amendments above and the discussion below is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 and 16-20 are allowed or allowable.

Claims 1-20 are pending.

Allowability of Claims Over Sadlre & Tuoriniemi

Rejection Summary

Claims 8-9 and 12 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,058,319 (Sadlre) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,978,689 (Tuoriniemi).

The Examiner concedes that Sadlre fails to disclose or suggest a "... player command ..." but asserts that it would have been obvious to "... have included Tuoriniemi's audio command into Sadlre's audiocassette player signal...."

Allowability of Claim 8

Regarding Claim 8, the prior art fail to disclose or suggest an

... audiocassette adapter for coupling a mobile electronic device to an audiocassette player, comprising:
a cassette head coupling device;

a mobile electronic device input coupled to the cassette head coupling device;
an audiocassette player command signal generator;
a control signal output coupled to the audiocassette player command signal generator.

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Sadlre fails to disclose "an audiocassette player command signal generator" and a "control signal output coupled to the audiocassette player command signal generator." The passages of Sadlre referenced by the Examiner to support this assertion refer to a detection circuit (64) housed within a coupling unit (52) mated to a mobile phone (12). In Sadlre, the detection circuit (64) detects when a cassette adapter (70) is connected to the coupling unit (52). In Sadlre, when the cassette adapter is disconnected, the internal speaker (20) and microphone (22) of the mobile phone (12) are active. Sadlre col. 4: 18-20 & 57-60. When the cassette adapter is connected, the external microphone (90) is active and audio is sent from the phone to the cassette adapter (70). Sadlre, col. 5: 1-4.

Neither Sadler nor Tuoriniemi disclose or suggest an "...audiocassette player command signal generator..." or providing any other control signal at a "...control signal output..." of an audiocassette adapter for coupling a mobile electronic device to an audiocassette player.

The various passages of Tuoriniemi cited by the Examiner do not support the asserted rejection. At col. 1: 8-10, Tuoriniemi discusses a cellular telephone combined with an audio device having external speakers. At col. 1: 25-29, Tuoriniemi discusses the inability of prior art mobile telephones to listen to audio (e.g., radio broadcast or stored on media) while simultaneously being alerted to an incoming message. At col. 10: 56-60, Tuoriniemi discusses a synthesizer capable of converting alphanumeric information to speech. At

col. 12: 32-42, Tuoriniemi discusses the use of voice commands to control a cellular telephone, CD, radio, tape, or other audio device operations. Claim 8 is thus patentably distinguished over Sadlre and Tuoriniemi.

Allowability of Claim 9

Regarding Claim 9, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 8,

... the audiocassette player command signal generator for outputting unique control signals in response to corresponding audiocassette player commands.

Sadlre admittedly does not disclose providing audiocassette player commands at a control output of the audiocassette adapter. Tuoriniemi does not disclose an audiocassette command signal generator. At col. 1: 8-10 and 25-29, referenced by the Examiner, Tuoriniemi discusses the operation of an off-hook switch circuit. Claim 9 is further patentably distinguished over Sadlre and Tuoriniemi.

Allowability of Claims Over Sadlre, Tuoriniemi & Clarke

Rejection Summary

Claims 10, 14 and 15 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,058,319 (Sadlre) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,978,689 (Tuoriniemi) and EP (Clarke).

Allowability of Claim 10

Regarding Claim 10, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 8,

... the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a rotational transducer with a transducer output coupled to the control signal output of the audiocassette adapter.

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, there is no reason to combine the transducer of Clarke with Sadlre and Tuoriniemi. Clarke discloses a ball-type computer input device used as a mouse or a track ball, wherein a rotational transducer generates electrical signals based upon the rotation of the ball. None of the references cited suggest an audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a rotational transducer with a transducer output coupled to the control signal output of the audiocassette adapter. Claim 10 is thus further patentably distinguished over the art.

Allowability of Claim 14

Claim 14 was amended grammatically and to clearly reference the "cassette head actuatable switch", which is part of the audiocassette player command signal generator. The prior fails to disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 8,

... the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a cassette head actuatable switch, the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a rotational transducer;
a logic device having an output coupled to the control signal output;

a switch output of the audiocassette player head actuatable switch coupled to an input of the logic device, a transducer output of the rotational transducer coupled to another input of the logic device.

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, there is no reason to combine the transducer of Clarke with Sadlre and Tuoriniemi. Clarke discloses a ball-type computer input device used as a mouse or a track ball, wherein a rotational transducer generates electrical signals based upon the rotation of the ball. None of the references cited suggest an audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a cassette head actuatable switch, the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a rotational transducer. Claim 14 is thus further patentably distinguished over the art.

Allowability of Claim 15

Regarding Claim 15, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 14,

... the audiocassette player command signal generator for outputting unique control signals in response to corresponding audiocassette player commands.

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, there is no reason to combine the transducer of Clarke with Sadlre and Tuoriniemi. Clarke discloses a ball-type computer input device used as a mouse or a track ball, wherein a rotational transducer generates electrical signals based upon the rotation of the ball. None of the references cited suggest audiocassette player command signal generator for outputting unique control signals in response to corresponding

audiocassette player commands. Claim 15 is further patentably distinguished over the art.

Prayer For Relief

In view of the discussion above, the Claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. Kindly withdraw any rejections and objections and allow this application to issue as a United States Patent without further delay.

Respectfully submitted,

/ ROLAND K. BOWLER II /

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REG. No. 33,477

MOTOROLA, INC.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPT. (RKB)
600 NORTH U.S. HIGHWAY 45, W4-37Q
LIBERTYVILLE, ILLINOIS 60048

TELEPHONE NO. (847) 523-3978
FACSIMILE NO. (847) 523-2350